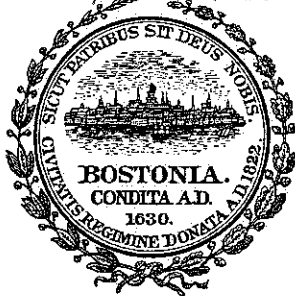


Offered by Councillor JOHN R. CONNOLLY and Councillor CHUCK TURNER, Feeney,
Yonkey, Pressley, Arroyo, Ciommo, Consalvo, LaMattina, Linehan, Ross



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF H3809, "AN ACT RELATIVE TO INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR AUTISM"

- WHEREAS,* Autism spectrum disorders (ASDs), a group of disorders which include autistic disorder and Asperger syndrome, are developmental disabilities that cause substantial impairments in social interaction affecting a person's ability to communicate and interact with others; and,
- WHEREAS,* ASDs are on the rise nationally; and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently found that approximately one in every 150 children in the United States is diagnosed with an ASD; and the CDC estimates that up to 560,000 individuals between the ages of 0 and 21 have an ASD; and,
- WHEREAS,* State Representative Barbara A. L'Italien and State Senator Frederick Berry sponsored House No. 3809 – "An Act Relative to Insurance Coverage for Autism" (ARICA) which would require private health insurance companies to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of ASD; and,
- WHEREAS,* a study by the Harvard School of Public Health in 2007 estimated that the cost of caring for a person with ASD over their lifetime is \$3.2 million; and,
- WHEREAS,* passage of ARICA could mean significant savings to the Commonwealth, as approximately \$7 million could be saved in reduced early intervention costs to the Department of Public Health and cost savings could be recognized through reduced Special Education costs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Boston City Council supports and encourages our state representatives, state senators, and governor to vote in favor of "An Act Relative to Insurance Coverage for Autism."

In City Council ADOPTED

Filed on: June 15, 2010

JUN 16 2010

Rosaria Salerno
CITY CLERK